



Outstanding Ospreys March 2016

Class Winner: Mr. Esposito's Class
Ms. Pancir's Class

Ms. Baldanza	Ryan Toomey
Ms. McManus	Lucas Miller
Ms. Audia	Peter Leavy
Mr. Dierking/Ms. Vaughans	Lars Galvin
Ms. McVetty	Thomas Breingan
Ms. Curtin/Ms. Roseto	Kathryn Montefusco
Ms. Danzig	Gavin Lefebvre
Ms. Telesco	Aria Hannah
Mr. Esposito	Tyllil Evans
Ms. Finnegan/Ms. Lawrence	David Hernandez
Ms. Marotta	Grace Colavecchio
Ms. Pancir	Margarita Torres Saravia

A Special Visit

A few weeks ago, we had a wonderful surprise! Mr. Jack Abrams, a former HUFSD teacher and principal, and the individual for whom our school was named, paid us a visit. Having moved out West, Mr. Abrams was back to see family and friends and stopped by. What a treat for us! He was taken on a tour of the school, and was very impressed. He especially liked what we've done with the Courtyard. In a letter he wrote us after the trip, he said "I was much impressed by all the improvements and the super, knowledgeable staff. The hugs were also appreciated even though I'm pushing 87 years. He went on to say "I found myself wishing that I would like to have stayed on to interact with all the exciting activities." We wish Jack all the best, and hope he'll visit again.

6th Grade Invention Convention

Who is Rube Goldberg? Ask any of our 6th grade students and they can explain. Rube Goldberg was a cartoonist that inspired creative, fun inventions that performed a simple task in a very complicated way. The Jack Abrams STEM Magnet 6th graders brought his concept to life in the first annual Invention Convention! Students learned about simple machines, forces, motion and how those concepts can be used to create an invention. 6th grade students partnered up to build a unique machine based on specific design requirements. But this project wasn't just about engineering, each team presented their invention and even developed a sales pitch presentation! The interdisciplinary project challenged students' creative problem solving skills. Parents joined in the fun at an evening event that showcased our young inventors! The entire 6th grade worked so hard on their invention convention projects. Everyone did a fantastic job!



Flame Challenge

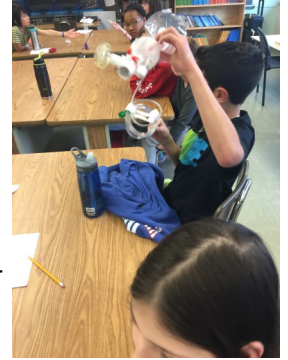
Our 5th grade students participated in the 2016 Flame Challenge. The Flame Challenge is an international competition offered through the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science where scientists compete against their colleagues to answer a specific scientific question in a way that 11-year-olds can understand. The Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science works to enhance understanding of science by helping train the next generation of scientists and health professionals to communicate more effectively with the public and others outside their own discipline.

The scientists' entries are judged by thousands of 5th and 6th grade schoolchildren around the world. This year marks the fifth year for the contest with scientists being challenged to answer the question, "What is Sound?" Previous years' challenges included, "What is Time?", "What is Color?" and "What is Sleep?" More information can be found at: <http://www.centerforcommunicatingscience.org/history-of-the-flame-challenge/>



5th Grade Human Body Systems Man vs. Machine

The 5th grade students completed their unit on the Human Body. As part of this unit they conducted a Man vs. Machine project where they built Lego robots and programmed them to complete a specific task. Students were then challenged to identify the similarities and differences between human body systems and the systems that allow robots to function. It was a fun, engaging and thought provoking project that incorporated technology and engineering with critical thinking and writing skills!



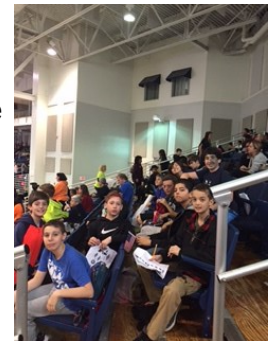
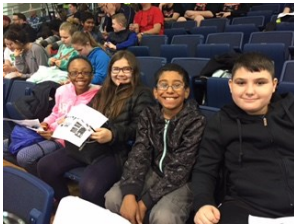
Bio-Medical Engineering

As part of the human body unit students learned how the knee joint works, measured range of motion and evaluated properties of different materials and how they could be used in the design of a knee brace. It was interesting to explore how engineering can impact the human body!



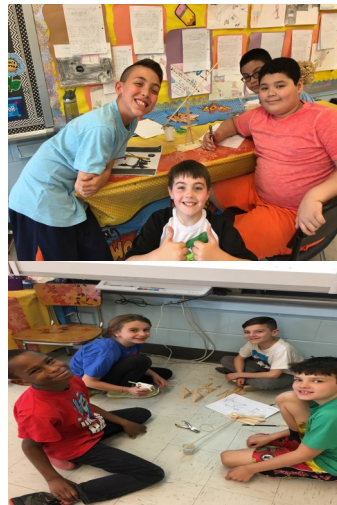
Robotics Competition

The 6th graders at JA STEM took advantage of an opportunity to attend a Robotics Competition at Hofstra University. We were able to "scout" high school teams from across Long Island and watch them work together to compete. We were given a guided tour of the pit area as well. It was a great trip!



A Lesson in Art

Mrs. Morea's art classes have been very busy! Fourth graders spent time learning about the artist Wayne Thiebaud and creating 3 dimensional slices of cake using cardboard, plaster, paint and clay for details. Third graders learned about symmetry with Ms. S, our student teacher, and made symmetrical butterflies using colored pencils and watercolor. Next they will be studying the art of Jim Dine and creating multi media relief sculptures, where parts are flat and parts are raised up.



Time to Build

Ms. Audia's 4th grade class worked on building and designing trebuchets. For those who are curious, a trebuchet is a machine that was used in medieval siege warfare for hurling large stones or other missiles.

Attention 4th Grade Parents

If you have not already done so, you must re-register your child. Please submit the following documentation to Ms. De-Marco in the main office as soon as possible.

IF YOU OWN YOUR HOME, please provide **one** of the following:

Your current tax bill
homeowner insurance policy or mortgage statement

In addition, three of the following items should be submitted:

current utility bill (water, electric, gas or cable) or social service statements, medical bills, pay stubs or credit card statements. **These items must include the name and address of the parent or legal guardian. You may block out your personal account numbers.**

IF YOU DO NOT OWN YOUR HOME, please provide **one** of the following:

Your current lease
Property Owner Affidavit notarized by the property owner (affidavit on reverse)

In addition, three of the following items should be submitted:

current utility bill (water, electric, gas or cable) or social service statements, medical bills, pay stubs or credit card statements. **These items must include the name and address of the parent or legal guardian. You may block out your personal account numbers.**



On Wednesday, 5/4 at 5:30 p.m., the movie Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Age, will be shown at Huntington High School in the auditorium. According to the trailer, "Screenagers probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, including the director's own, and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through surprising insights from authors and brain scientists solutions emerge on how we can empower kids to best navigate the digital world." Admission is free. I hope you can join us for this important event.



Upcoming Events

- May 6** **STEM Variety Show**
7:30 pm
- May 19th** **Book Fair**
- May 20th** **Book Fair**
- May 30** **Memorial Day Recess**
Schools Closed